

Rebuttal to argument opposed to Measure _

It's time for the opponents of Measure _ to get honest about the facts.

Since the Grand Jury report in 2008, the number of cities in Orange County that allow safe and sane fireworks has doubled. Why? Voters see that claims by anti-fireworks activists never materialize. There were two incidents in HB during the two year trial-period with only one related to a state-approved product.

Allowing the use of legal fireworks increases the use of illegal, non-state-approved, fireworks? Many longtime residents saw and heard more illegal fireworks this year than ever - during a ban. You make the call.

The Grand Jury report asked five cities to consider a moratorium on safe and sane fireworks - all five cities refused the recommendation.

Local Orange County cities are opening up their communities to legal fireworks after decades-long bans. Westminster, Fullerton, Villa Park and Anaheim have opened since 2010.

Local Huntington Beach community non-profit groups netted over \$700,000 selling safe and sane fireworks in 2012 and 2013. Those dollars went directly into local high school, junior college, youth sport and philanthropic organizations within our community.

Don't make criminals out of people who want to use products approved by the California State Fire Marshal, once a year on our nation's birthday, on their own private property.

Vote Yes on Measure _.

Matthew Harper
Mayor, City of Huntington Beach

Joe Carchio
Councilman, City of Huntington Beach

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AYSO Regional Commissioner
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